

**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
December 2020**

In November 2020, the EM Nevada Program continued to operate in Phase 2 of its Operations Remobilization Plan with a continued focus on the deliberate and gradual approach to the execution of Phase 2 protocols. The Remobilization Plan aligns with the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) *Return to the Federal Workplace Framework* plan in full coordination with site partners at the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO). The EM Nevada Program closely monitors the data reported by the State of Nevada, the Southern Nevada Health District, and other public health agencies with employee health and safety remaining the top priority. Limited travel has commenced under Phase 2, primarily for Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations and oversight and is being considered and approved on a case-by-case basis. EM Nevada crews are currently performing field work. The EM Nevada Program continues to meet its commitments to stakeholders through virtual and/or in-person meetings (i.e., NSSAB, Low-Level Waste [LLW] Stakeholders Forum, State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP], etc.) In an abundance of caution, EM Nevada Program has opted to transition all Program-hosted public events to a virtual format through at least March 31, 2021.

External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via virtual meeting – November 18, 2020
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Hosted LLW Stakeholders Forum via virtual meeting (NSSAB Member attended) – November 5, 2020
 - Conducted briefing on EM Nevada Program activities to Nevada-based U.S. Air Force leadership via virtual/in-person meeting – November 16, 2020
 - Attended DOE HQ Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting – November 17-18, 2020
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting (NSSAB Chair attended) – November 18, 2020
- Publications:
 - Published social media and article, *EM Nevada Reaches 75% Completion of Groundwater Mission*, in EM Update newsletter, DOE Office of Environmental Management Weekly Digest Bulletin, and NNSS News and available at <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/News/news.html>
- Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) tours:
 - Per NNSA/NFO, all site tours have been suspended through December 31, 2020
- Planned activities for December 2020:
 - Publish social media and article on Local Tribes Using Centuries of History, Experience to Help Solve Revegetation Challenges in Nevada
 - Publish social media and article on 2020 EM Nevada Year in Review

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- Update from previous reports – Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), Oak Ridge, TN generator: The EM Nevada Program continues to coordinate with DOE Headquarters and the NNSA/NFO on items related to the Y-12 waste event from July 2019. RWAP conducted its audit of Y-12 during the week of November 15, 2020. The audit resulted in one Finding and three Observations. Two of the Observations were closed during the audit. RWAP has 30 days to complete the assessment report. Y-12 will have 30 days to respond to the assessment report after Y-12 receives it. (please see April – May 2019, July 2019 – April 2020, August – November 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information.)
- Update from previous report – Oak Ridge, TN generator #2: In August 2020, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. RWAP submitted the final report to the generator in September 2020. The generator has 30 days after receiving the report to respond to RWAP with a corrective action plan addressing the Finding. The generator asked for an extension to responding to the RWAP Finding, because of COVID-19 impacts. That extension was granted to November 1, 2020. The generator is late and RWAP is contacting the generator at the time of this update. Will follow-up in next month's update. (please see September 2020 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)
- In November 2020, the RWAP conducted two facility evaluations:
 - Portsmouth, OH generator: The facility evaluation resulted in one Finding that the generator will have 30 days to respond to after receiving the RWAP final report.
 - Oak Ridge, TN Generator: The facility evaluation resulted in one Finding that the generator will have 30 days to respond to after receiving the RWAP final report (see Y-12 bullet above)
- In December 2020, the RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In December 2020, approximately 37,301 cubic feet of LLW, mixed LLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 101/102, Pahute Mesa

NDEP provided comments on the Pahute Mesa Hydrologic Data Document in November 2020. Comments will be addressed in December 2020. Preparation of the Pahute Mesa Transport Data Document took place in November 2020 and the draft document will undergo internal technical review in December 2020.

Industrial Sites

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five Corrective Action Sites (CASS) located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. In July 2020, a revised draft Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) was submitted to NDEP and comments were received. Comment resolution and work on the final CADD/CAP continued in November 2020.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance performed in accordance with closure requirements. The annual inspections began in August 2020 and will continue throughout the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Maintenance identified during the September 2020 quarterly inspections of RCRA CAUs continued in November 2020; the quarterly inspections were also conducted in November 2020.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

The Yucca Flat/Climax Mine (CAU 97) Closure Monitoring Report is being prepared for submittal to NDEP in December 2020. Groundwater sampling for Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain (CAU 99) was completed in November 2020. Preparation of the Post-Closure Monitoring Report for Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain will begin in December 2020.